Sermon Outline November 13, 2016

**Making HIStory My Story**

**ACT 6: A MAN AFTER GOD’S HEART**

Warren Buffet said, “Tell me who your heroes are; and I will tell you how you’ll turn out.” Even though it’s not found in the Bible, I have no doubt that God agrees. Why? Because God himself raises up heroes for his people to look up to in the hope that their faith will inspire faith in his people. One of those heroes was David.

God rescue Israel from captivity in Egypt and made her a nation at Sinai so that the world could taste and see his goodness. By the book of Judges, however, Israel had gone the way of all mankind. Two statements that get repeated throughout the book are: *“Israel did evil in the eyes of the LORD”* and *“Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”* **It was time for God to act again.**

Instead of giving up on Israel, God reached out yet again and gave Israel a man they could look up to, a man after God’s heart (1 Samuel 13:14). Together, the four elements that make up Act 6 of HIStory also make up God’s sixth step toward his goal for HIStory. Together, these four elements paint a picture of the kind of person God wants us to admire, the kind of people we need to become if we’re going to build a culture of reliance on God.

**A King without a Kingdom – 1 Samuel 16:1-13**

* David was anointed king when he was about fifteen; but he didn’t get his kingdom until he was thirty. Why did God withhold his kingdom so long? If David was going to build a culture of reliance on God in Israel, he needed to learn to trust God to orchestrate the events of his own life. He needed to learn not to take matters into his own hands (1 Samuel 24).
* Human wisdom says, “Don’t just sit there. Do something.” Godly wisdom often says, “Don’t just do something. Sit there for a while and wait on God.”

**A Kingdom without a Coup – 2 Samuel 2:1-4**

* After fifteen years of waiting, God finally took Saul out of the way and gave David his kingdom without a coup, without conflict, without compromise.
* Jesus promised that the meek shall inherit the earth. Contrary to popular opinion meekness is not weakness. It’s strength under control. The meek person knows when to act in God’s name and when to wait for God’s prompting.

**A Kingdom without an End – 2 Samuel 7:11-16**

* Because he waited for his earthly kingdom, God promised David an eternal kingdom. While David’s earthly dynasty came to an end in 586 BC, he got an eternal kingdom through Jesus, the Christ (Luke 1:32-33).

**God’s Call to Sonship – 2 Samuel 7:14**

* In order to build a culture of reliance through them, God called the kings of Israel and Judah to be his sons. On the one hand, that meant that he would treat them like a father treats his grown up children. He would be committed to them. He would also hold them accountable. On the other hand, it meant that the Jewish kings had to maintain a close and trusting relationship with their divine Father.
* Jesus Christ experienced that kind of relationship with his heavenly Father like no other. He called God *Abba* or Papa. When his Spirit takes up residence in our lives, we can experience the same (Romans 8:15). Through Christ’s Spirit we receive dependant hearts and become able to build the kind of culture that characterizes heaven.